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New Mexico Labor Market Review

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EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT
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HIGHLIGHTS

New Mexico's unemployment rate rose from 9.0 to 9.2 percent in November 1986, pushed upward largely by seasonal related layoffs in construction, manufacturing, trade, and services. The number of unemployed in November, at 62,000, was 800 more than in October and 5,600 larger than one year ago. Nationally, the unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) in November was 6.6 percent, unchanged from October but slightly lower than the 6.7 percent rate in November 1985.

November nonagricultural wage and salary job estimates for New Mexico, based on a monthly sample of employer payrolls, indicated hiring in retail trade and transportation as firms began staffing up for the holiday season. Employment decreases ranging from 100 to 500 were reported in food processing, construction, eating & drinking places, and at lodging facilities, all fairly normal changes for November.

Unfortunately, job losses not related to seasonal trends also occurred in November. Employment in oil & gas extraction, after posting a small increase in October, again declined during November, adding to the substantial job losses shown by the sector since early 1986. Also, communications and utilities lost approximately 200 jobs in November, following the receding employment trend shown by that industry over the last year.

"Mixed" definitely describes the performance of New Mexico's economy over the last year. Moderate job growth in the range of two to four percent was posted by trade, services, and finance & real estate; however, unparalleled job losses have occurred in oil & gas extraction, along with smaller reductions in other areas of mining, and in construction and communications & utilities.

NOVEMBER SUMMARY

	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Nov. 1986	Oct. 1986	Nov. 1985	Oct. 1986	Nov. 1985
Civilian Labor Force	675,500	682,000	653,700	-6,500	+21,800
Employment	613,500	620,800	597,300	-7,300	+16,200
Unemployment	62,000	61,200	56,400	+ 800	+5,600
Rate	9.2%	9.0%	8.6%		

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

NEW MEXICO	PRELIM NOV 1986	REVISED OCT 1986	REVISED NOV 1985	NOV CHANGE FROM OCT 1986	NOV CHANGE FROM NOV 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	525,800	525,600	526,000	200	-200
MINING	14,700	14,800	20,200	-100	-5,500
Metal Mining	2,200	2,200	2,900	0	-700
Bituminous Coal, Quarrying etc	3,600	3,600	3,900	0	-300
Oil & Gas Extraction	8,900	9,000	13,400	-100	-4,500
CONSTRUCTION	36,300	36,700	37,100	-400	-800
MANUFACTURING	38,000	38,600	37,700	-600	300
DURABLE GOODS	24,400	24,500	24,600	-100	-200
Lumber & Wood Products	2,700	2,800	2,600	-100	100
Machinery(except electric)	2,400	2,400	2,700	0	-300
Elec & Electronic Equip	6,900	6,900	6,600	0	300
Transportation Equipment	4,100	4,100	4,300	0	-200
Other Durable Goods	8,300	8,300	8,400	0	-100
NONDURABLE GOODS	13,600	14,100	13,100	-500	500
Food & Kindred Products	4,900	5,400	4,200	-500	700
Textile & Apparel	2,400	2,400	2,400	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	6,300	6,300	6,500	0	-200
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	27,800	28,000	29,800	-200	-2,000
TRANSPORTATION	12,800	12,800	13,200	0	-400
Railroad Transportation	2,300	2,300	2,300	0	0
Trucking & Warehousing	6,100	6,000	6,200	100	-100
Other Transportation	4,400	4,500	4,700	-100	-300
COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	15,000	15,200	16,600	-200	-1,600
Communication	6,400	6,500	7,100	-100	-700
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	8,600	8,700	9,500	-100	-900
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	130,800	129,400	127,600	1,400	3,200
WHOLESALE TRADE	22,800	22,800	23,200	0	-400
Durable Goods	13,600	13,700	13,600	-100	0
Nondurable Goods	9,200	9,100	9,600	100	-400
RETAIL TRADE	108,000	106,600	104,400	1,400	3,600
Bldg Material & Mobile Homes	4,800	4,900	4,600	-100	200
General Merchandise Stores	13,800	13,300	12,700	500	1,100
Food Stores	16,700	16,200	15,600	500	1,100
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	13,200	13,200	13,000	0	200
Apparel & Accessories	6,000	5,600	6,200	400	-200
Furniture & Furnishing	4,600	4,500	4,500	100	100
Eating & Drinking Places	36,800	37,100	35,800	-300	1,000
Miscellaneous Retail	12,100	11,800	12,000	300	100
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	26,600	26,500	25,500	100	1,100
Banking	8,100	8,100	8,100	0	0
Insurance Carriers	3,400	3,400	3,300	0	100
Insur Agents, Brokers & Service	2,900	2,900	2,700	0	200
Real Estate	6,500	6,500	6,200	0	300
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	5,700	5,600	5,200	100	500
SERVICES	115,800	116,200	113,500	-400	2,300
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	12,500	12,600	11,200	-100	1,300
Personal Services	5,700	5,800	5,800	-100	-100
Business Services	27,100	27,400	26,500	-300	600
Health Services	27,600	27,500	27,400	100	200
Legal Services	4,100	4,100	3,800	0	300
Educational Services	3,900	3,900	4,100	0	-200
Social Services	7,700	7,700	7,300	0	400
Membership Organizations	5,400	5,400	6,000	0	-600
Other Services	21,800	21,800	21,400	0	400
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	135,800	135,400	134,600	400	1,200
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	28,600	29,200	28,900	-600	-300
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	107,200	106,200	105,700	1,000	1,500
State Government 2/	48,900	48,600	48,300	300	600
Local Government	58,300	57,600	57,400	700	900

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

2/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

ALBUQUERQUE AREA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)

HIGHLIGHTS

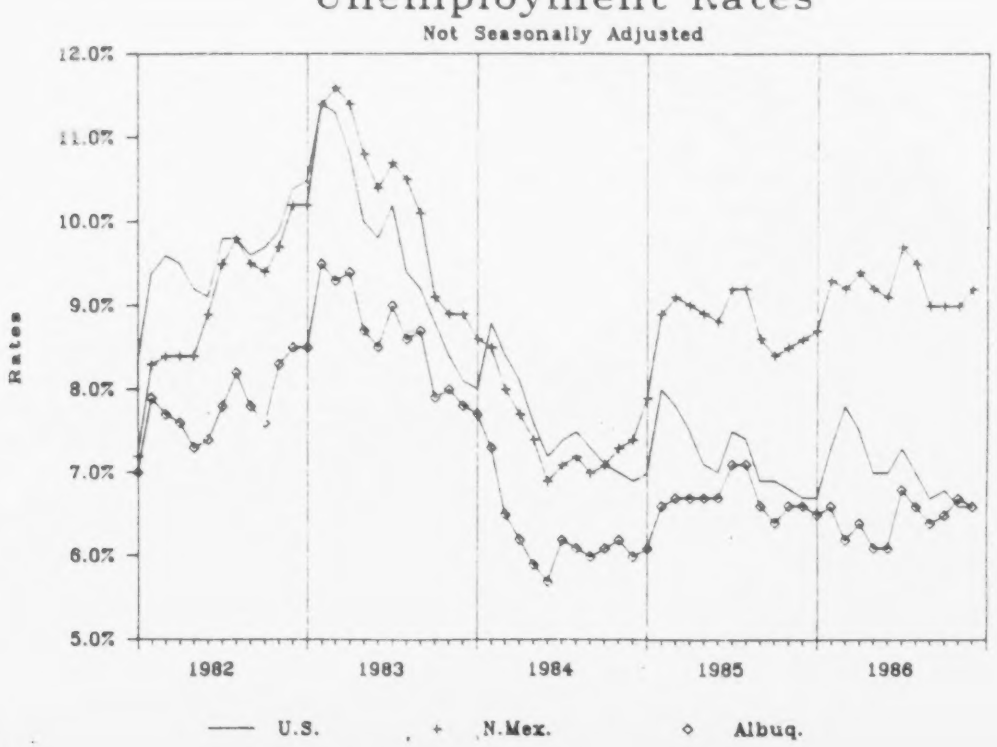
Unemployment in the Albuquerque area dipped just slightly in November, according to preliminary labor force estimates. The number of unemployed individuals fell by 200 over the month, and the unemployment rate edged downward to 6.6% to equal the rate recorded in November 1985.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment registered an advance of 800 jobs from October to November. Notable gains occurred in retail trade and government. Retail trade rose despite a seasonal drop of 200 jobs in eating and drinking places, as general merchandise, apparel, and miscellaneous retail stores scored solid gains. The additions to government payrolls were found almost entirely in the educational sector. Small job losses in several industrial sectors added up to an over-the-month employment drop of 500 in services. The 200-job reduction in manufacturing was a seasonal event concentrated in food processing.

Over the past twelve months, the situation in Albuquerque is in sharp contrast to the Statewide situation, since Albuquerque has been virtually unscathed by the massive declines in mining employment occurring elsewhere in the state. In Albuquerque, 4,400 nonagricultural payroll jobs have been added since November 1985, which represents a growth of two percent. Construction is the only industrial division to experience a significant over-the-year decrease in jobs, as there are now 800 fewer construction jobs in the area than there were a year ago. There has been a very minor decrease in mining employment, manufacturing has held steady, and all other divisions have registered small to modest employment gains.

NOVEMBER SUMMARY

	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Nov. 1986	Oct. 1986	Nov. 1985	Oct. 1986	Nov. 1985
Civilian Labor Force	257,800	259,500	244,300	-1,700	+13,500
Employment	240,700	242,200	228,100	-1,500	+12,600
Unemployment	17,100	17,300	16,200	- 200	+ 900
Rate	6.6%	6.7%	6.6%		



ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

ALBUQUERQUE MSA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)	PRELIM NOV 1986	REVISED SEP 1986	REVISED NOV 1985	NOV CHANGE FROM OCT 1986	NOV CHANGE FROM NOV 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	228,100	227,300	223,700	800	4,400
MINING	200	300	300	-100	-100
CONSTRUCTION	18,000	18,100	18,800	-100	-800
MANUFACTURING	19,400	19,600	19,400	-200	0
Durable Goods	13,900	13,900	13,700	0	200
Nondurable Goods	5,500	5,700	5,700	-200	-200
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	12,300	12,300	12,200	0	100
Transportation	6,100	6,100	5,700	0	400
Communication	3,800	3,800	4,000	0	-200
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	2,400	2,400	2,500	0	-100
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	58,900	58,300	57,800	600	1,100
WHOLESALE TRADE	14,100	14,100	14,300	0	-200
Durable Goods	9,500	9,500	9,500	0	0
Nondurable Goods	4,600	4,600	4,800	0	-200
RETAIL TRADE	44,800	44,200	43,500	600	1,300
General Merchandise Stores	5,400	5,100	5,000	300	400
Food Stores	5,200	5,200	5,000	0	200
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	4,800	4,800	4,800	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	16,200	16,400	15,700	-200	500
Other Retail Trade	13,200	12,700	13,000	500	200
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	13,900	13,800	13,500	100	400
Banking	3,200	3,200	3,200	0	0
Ins Carriers, Agents & Brokers	4,000	3,900	3,800	100	200
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	6,700	6,700	6,500	0	200
SERVICES	58,500	59,000	57,700	-500	800
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	3,800	3,900	3,500	-100	300
Personal Services	3,000	3,100	3,100	-100	-100
Business Services	18,700	18,900	18,700	-200	0
Health Services	13,400	13,500	13,200	-100	200
Social Services	2,900	2,800	2,800	100	100
Membership Organizations	1,500	1,600	1,700	-100	-200
Other Services	15,200	15,200	14,700	0	500
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	46,900	45,900	44,000	1,000	2,900
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	12,700	12,900	12,200	-200	500
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	34,200	33,000	31,800	1,200	2,400
State Government	14,700	13,900	13,200	800	1,500
Local Government	19,500	19,100	18,600	400	900

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

LAS CRUCES MSA (DONA ANA COUNTY) 1/	PRELIM NOV 1986	REVISED OCT 1986	REVISED NOV 1985	NOV CHANGE FROM OCT 1986	NOV CHANGE FROM NOV 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	40,800	40,650	37,850	150	2,950
MINING 3/	0	0	0	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2,800	2,800	2,500	0	300
MANUFACTURING	3,150	3,600	3,100	-450	50
Durable Goods	1,250	1,300	1,200	-50	50
Nondurable Goods	1,900	2,300	1,900	-400	0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,500	1,500	1,400	0	100
Transportation	650	650	600	0	50
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	850	850	800	0	50
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	8,500	8,300	7,850	200	650
WHOLESALE TRADE	850	800	850	50	0
RETAIL TRADE	7,650	7,500	7,000	150	650
General Merchandise Stores	1,050	950	950	100	100
Food Stores	1,100	1,100	950	0	150
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	800	800	800	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3,200	3,200	2,900	0	300
Other Retail Trade	1,500	1,450	1,400	50	100
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	1,650	1,650	1,550	0	100
SERVICES	6,000	5,800	5,450	200	550
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	900	700	600	200	300
Business Services	1,000	1,000	900	0	100
Health Services	1,500	1,500	1,400	0	100
Social Services	300	300	350	0	-50
Other Services	2,300	2,300	2,200	0	100
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	17,200	17,000	16,000	200	1,200
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	4,700	4,700	4,700	0	0
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	12,500	12,300	11,300	200	1,200
State Government	7,400	7,300	6,200	100	1,200
Local Government	5,100	5,000	5,100	100	0

SANTA FE MSA (SANTA FE & LOS ALAMOS COUNTIES) 1/	PRELIM NOV 1986	REVISED OCT 1986	REVISED NOV 1985	NOV CHANGE FROM OCT 1986	NOV CHANGE FROM NOV 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	51,000	50,950	50,750	50	250
MINING	100	100	150	0	-50
CONSTRUCTION	3,500	3,500	3,500	0	0
MANUFACTURING	1,500	1,550	1,650	-50	-150
Durable Goods	900	950	950	-50	-50
Nondurable Goods	600	600	700	0	-100
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
Transportation	400	400	350	0	50
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	700	700	750	0	-50
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	10,250	10,050	9,900	200	350
WHOLESALE TRADE	700	700	700	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	9,550	9,350	9,200	200	350
General Merchandise Stores	1,050	950	1,050	100	0
Food Stores	1,500	1,400	1,250	100	250
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	850	850	900	0	-50
Eating & Drinking Places	3,600	3,600	3,400	0	200
Other Retail Trade	2,550	2,550	2,600	0	-50
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	2,100	2,050	2,000	50	100
SERVICES	12,550	12,800	12,050	-250	500
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	1,900	1,950	1,500	-50	400
Business Services	2,900	3,000	2,900	-100	0
Health Services	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	0
Social Services	550	550	550	0	0
Other Services	4,600	4,700	4,500	-100	100
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	19,900	19,800	20,400	100	-500
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	1,500	1,500	1,600	0	-100
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	18,400	18,300	18,800	100	-400
State Government 4/	15,100	15,000	15,100	100	0
Local Government	3,300	3,300	3,700	0	-400

1/ In accordance with the CES Manual, those published cells with less than 2,000 employees are rounded to nearest 50. Those published cells with more than 2,000 employees are rounded to 100.

2/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

3/ The employment for the Las Cruces MSA is rounded to fifty. Because employment in this industry is below 25 it appears as zero.

4/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS

Hours and Earnings of Production, Construction and Nonsupervisory Employees
(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
NEW MEXICO	NOV 1986	OCT 1986	NOV 1985	NOV 1986	OCT 1986	NOV 1985	NOV 1986	OCT 1986	NOV 1985
MINING	$497.71	$498.48	$507.03	40.3	40.2	42.5	12.35	12.40	11.93
CONSTRUCTION	$395.16	$392.94	$374.17	37.0	37.0	35.1	10.68	10.62	10.66
MANUFACTURING	$339.30	$357.46	$342.55	39.0	40.3	40.3	8.70	8.87	8.50
Durable Goods	$338.12	$362.71	$344.92	39.5	40.8	40.2	8.56	8.89	8.58
Nondurable Goods	$342.00	$347.51	$335.72	38.0	39.4	40.4	9.00	8.82	8.31
COMMUNICATION & UTILITIES	$539.67	$542.69	$485.78	41.9	42.2	42.8	12.88	12.86	11.35
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	$214.83	$216.46	$211.23	32.6	32.6	32.8	6.59	6.64	6.44
Wholesale Trade	$358.90	$364.34	$351.94	40.1	40.8	41.6	8.95	8.93	8.46
Retail Trade	$187.24	$187.85	$183.80	31.0	31.0	31.1	6.04	6.06	5.91
BANKING	$241.35	$225.42	$224.40	40.7	38.6	39.3	5.93	5.84	5.71
ALBUQUERQUE MSA	NOV 1986	OCT 1986	NOV 1985	NOV 1986	OCT 1986	NOV 1985	NOV 1986	OCT 1986	NOV 1985
MANUFACTURING	$349.44	$363.04	$336.80	39.8	40.7	39.3	8.78	8.92	8.57
Durable Goods	$351.75	$374.59	$351.65	40.2	41.3	39.6	8.75	9.07	8.88
Nondurable Goods	$340.99	$329.94	$297.99	38.4	39.0	38.6	8.88	8.46	7.72

NOTE: Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded. The average earnings are "gross" reflecting not only changes in basic hourly and incentive wage rates but also such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differentials. The work week information relates to the average hours for which pay was received, and is different from standard or scheduled hours due to absenteeism, labor turnover, part time work, overtime work etc.

AREA ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

STATEWIDE: The U.S. Defense Department still expects to make the final decision on location of the Strategic Defense Initiative laser project by January. Three New Mexico sites, all on the White Sands Missile Range, are under consideration for the project. The project is expected to employ between 500 and 2,000 construction workers and have a 250 operational work force. The Pacific Texas Pipeline Company has received final approval from the California Coastal Commission to build and operate a $1.66 billion crude oil pipeline that will extend 1,030 miles from Los Angeles Harbor to Midland, Texas, passing through the southern portion of New Mexico. Company officials said work will begin immediately in California, and the entire pipeline should be completed by late 1987.

ALBUQUERQUE AREA: Building contracts in Bernalillo County for the first 10 months of 1986 totaled just under $500 million, a drop of 15 percent from the $587 million recorded during the first 10 months of 1985; non-residential contracts bore the brunt of the decline. A March opening date is anticipated for The Outlook, a $1.4 million restaurant-nightclub-piano bar project to be located on the top floor of Metro Uptown Plaza; the new business should employ about 100 workers, including about 30 cooks. Hardee's has opened a new restaurant, employing about 50 workers, near Fourth and Delamar, N.W. J.C. Penney plans to close its store in Hiland Shopping Center about the end of January; the store currently employs 24 workers, most of whom will be absorbed by other Penney facilities in this area. Construction of Desert Surf, New Mexico's first water park, is expected to begin shortly in the Renaissance Center near I-25 and Montano Road; the 15-acre park should be open by the end of May. The Albuquerque Board of Education has approved the sale of the 12-acre Monroe School site near Winrock Center to

Bellamah Community Development, which plans to build two high-rise office towers, a hotel, and a shopping mall on the property; no date has been set for construction to begin. Holiday Inn's Pyramid Plaza hotel has opened near I-25 and Paseo del Norte, employing 300 workers. The owners of Montgomery Plaza Mall are planning a $31 million renovation-expansion project which will probably mean more than 400 new jobs at the shopping center; the mall's present 279,000-square-feet will be expanded to nearly 400,000-square-feet, and the present 28 tenants will increase to more than 50. The project is expected to begin early in 1987.

ALAMOGORDO / RUIDOSO AREA: K. Barnett and Sons Inc. was awarded a $1.2 million contract to construct a two mile section of thoroughfare in north Alamogordo. Ski Apache near Ruidoso opened for the 1986/87 season in late November with about 250 employees. Early indications are that this winter will be a banner season for the state's ski industry. Sears, Roebuck and Co. opened its new 19,000-square-foot retail/catalog store in Alamogordo on November 24.

CARLSBAD / ARTESIA AREA: Textonic Construction Co. of Englewood, CO has received a $2.3 million contract from the City of Carlsbad for widening of the North Canal Street bridge over the Pecos River and other street work in Carlsbad. Lundberg Industries closed its area potash mine for eight weeks beginning November 22 in order to reduce inventories. The closure affected approximately 400 workers at the Lundberg facility. International Minerals and Chemical Corp. (IMC) also shut down its potash mine for a three-week period beginning December 14 for the same reason as Lundberg. IMC employs 575 people, and officials said the shutdown will affect about 80 percent of the workforce at the mine. Construction on Brantley Dam is progressing according to plan, with the concrete work scheduled for completion this March. Earth work on the dam should be completed by mid-1988. Monterey Construction Company, the general contractor for Brantley, currently employs about 400 workers on the project.

FARMINGTON AREA: Utah International has put about 900 employees on vacation status at their three area coal mines, in order to bring coal inventories into line with demand by the San Juan Generating Station and the Four Corners Power Plant; operations are scheduled to resume on January 5. Another temporary shutdown is planned for March. Albuquerque-based American Furniture Company plans a February 7 opening for their new American Home Furnishings store in Farmington's American Plaza; the store will employ from 50 to 75 people.

GALLUP / GRANTS AREA: A $5 million remodeling project is underway at Gallup's Holiday Inn; the project includes construction of a 25,000-square-foot convention center, 44 new guest rooms, and several other renovations and should be completed by June 1987. Bagdad Plastics in Grants has recently returned to a 24-hour, 7-day work schedule as a result of a significant increase in orders, especially from South America and the Carribean area. An agreement has been reached pertaining to cleanup of Anaconda Mining Company's abandoned Jackpile-Paugate uranium mine at Laguna; the 10-year project should cost about $43 million and employ 81 Laguna residents and eight others. An $83,000 In-Plant Training grant has been approved for Alternative Bedding Corporation to train 56 workers in various skills necessary in its Grants manufacturing plant. The firm also has plans to open a retail store in Grants. The State Economic Development and Tourism Board has approved a $200,000 loan to the City of Grants to help pay for the development of an industrial park.

HOBBS AREA: By January, the City of Hobbs is scheduled to advertise for bid on an estimated $2.7 million project to extend Navajo Road in Hobbs. El Paso Natural Gas Company (EPNG) has closed its Gas Plant No. 4 in the Jal area and is analyzing the operations of Plant No. 3 south of Eunice. EPNG employment in the area has been

reduced by 60, with reductions in all departments.

LAS CRUCES AREA: Hughes Aircraft is scheduled to open its $3 million, 25,000-square-foot radar repair facility in Las Cruces by mid-January. The facility, which will repair radar components on the New Mexico National Guard's Roland Missile system, will employ about 40 workers with a payroll of approximately $1 million annually. The Hughes facility is located in the Entrada del Sol Industrial Park in Las Cruces. United New Mexico Bank at Las Cruces recently opened a new branch facility in the Skaggs Alpha Beta Supermarket on Wyatt Dr. in Las Cruces. Work is complete on the Village Plaza, a $250,000 shopping center in Las Cruces. Foamex Products, Inc. was awarded a $125,000 grant from the state In-Plant Training Committee to train 50 workers for its proposed Santa Teresa polyurethane products plant. Foamex officials said the firm will spend $6.1 million in the plant's first phase, which will include land acquisition, construction, and equipment purchases.

RATON AREA: Kaiser Coal Company laid off 190 workers from its underground Cimarron Mine for the month of December because of excessive coal inventories; operations are scheduled to resume about January 5. Construction is expected to begin about April 1 on a new jail to serve both Colfax and Union Counties; the new facility should create 5 to 10 new jobs, in addition to those currently employed at the Colfax County jail.

ROSWELL AREA: Transportation Manufacturing Corporation laid off approximately 60 workers in late November. Mealmakers Inc., the food processing firm which opened its Roswell plant in October, currently is employing 75 people in its operations. Within two years, officials expect the Roswell Mealmakers' plant to employ up to 450 workers producing both frozen and canned vegetables grown locally. Work has begun by Taylor-Faust Construction Co. on a $341,000 health clinic in Dexter.

SOCORRO / T or C AREA: A Las Vegas, Nev.-based mining firm, Smith Mining Co. Inc., plans to break ground south of T or C in late February for a $1.5 million mill capable of processing 2,000 tons per day of ore in pursuit of gold and silver. Smith Mining officials said the mill will take about five months to complete and

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U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

	November 1986	October 1986	November 1985
CPI-U	330.8	330.5	326.6
CPI-W	325.4	325.0	322.6

Base Year 1967 = 100

CPI-U - All Urban Consumers
CPI-W - Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

NEW MEXICO LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES 1/

	PRELIMINARY NOVEMBER 1986				REVISED OCTOBER 1986				REVISED NOVEMBER 1985			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	675,471	613,504	61,967	9.2%	682,010	620,820	61,190	9.0%	653,694	597,280	56,414	8.6%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 2/	257,784	240,728	17,056	6.6%	259,484	242,232	17,252	6.6%	244,353	228,115	16,238	6.6%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	58,099	54,216	3,883	6.7%	57,656	53,666	3,990	6.9%	53,069	48,937	4,132	7.8%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	62,008	58,461	3,547	5.7%	62,682	59,344	3,338	5.3%	60,371	57,156	3,215	5.3%
Catron	1,109	925	184	16.6%	1,168	1,024	144	12.3%	983	796	187	19.0%
Chaves	23,300	21,103	2,197	9.4%	23,654	21,574	2,080	8.8%	23,109	21,390	1,719	7.4%
Cibola	8,304	6,913	1,391	16.8%	8,405	7,012	1,393	16.6%	8,560	6,674	1,886	22.0%
Colfax	6,671	5,733	938	14.1%	6,784	5,936	848	12.5%	6,691	5,866	825	12.3%
Curry	17,930	16,477	1,453	8.1%	18,278	16,877	1,401	7.7%	16,474	15,227	1,247	7.6%
De Baca	951	840	111	11.7%	1,054	936	118	11.2%	966	837	129	13.4%
Eddy	22,041	19,213	2,828	12.8%	22,580	19,721	2,859	12.7%	21,896	19,426	2,470	11.3%
Grant	9,949	8,878	1,071	10.8%	10,105	9,046	1,059	10.5%	9,570	8,417	1,153	12.0%
Guadalupe	1,645	1,390	255	15.5%	1,722	1,500	222	12.9%	1,689	1,437	252	14.9%
Harding	540	479	61	11.3%	538	479	59	11.0%	539	473	66	12.2%
Hidalgo	2,336	2,197	139	6.0%	2,454	2,279	175	7.1%	2,359	2,174	185	7.8%
Lea	24,887	21,368	3,519	14.1%	25,253	21,715	3,538	14.0%	26,132	24,681	1,451	5.6%
Lincoln	7,120	6,516	604	8.5%	7,303	6,723	580	7.9%	7,386	6,859	527	7.1%
Luna	5,861	4,955	906	15.5%	6,129	5,317	812	13.2%	5,805	4,865	940	16.2%
McKinley	16,965	14,663	2,302	13.6%	17,228	14,886	2,342	13.6%	17,118	14,744	2,374	13.9%
Mora	1,358	883	475	35.0%	1,376	933	443	32.2%	1,561	1,083	478	30.6%
Otero	17,783	16,410	1,373	7.7%	17,931	16,617	1,314	7.3%	16,817	15,368	1,449	8.6%
Quay	4,467	4,073	394	8.8%	4,623	4,216	407	8.8%	4,491	4,077	414	9.2%
Rio Arriba	12,915	10,372	2,543	19.7%	12,854	10,556	2,298	17.9%	13,755	11,356	2,399	17.4%
Roosevelt	7,905	7,466	439	5.6%	7,935	7,561	374	4.7%	7,443	7,037	406	5.5%
Sandoval	22,242	20,255	1,987	8.9%	22,694	20,489	2,205	9.7%	21,921	20,070	1,851	8.4%
San Juan	34,142	28,773	5,369	15.7%	34,568	29,224	5,344	15.5%	33,962	29,869	4,093	12.1%
San Miguel	9,551	8,286	1,265	13.2%	9,738	8,531	1,207	12.4%	9,953	8,701	1,252	12.6%
Sierra	2,559	2,331	228	8.9%	2,546	2,341	205	8.1%	2,262	2,051	211	9.3%
Socorro	5,821	5,231	590	10.1%	5,884	5,304	580	9.9%	5,325	4,876	449	8.4%
Taos	9,832	7,091	2,741	27.9%	9,609	7,119	2,490	25.9%	10,821	8,398	2,423	22.4%
Torrance	3,173	2,787	386	12.2%	3,228	2,874	354	11.0%	3,358	2,939	419	12.5%
Union	2,101	1,929	172	8.2%	2,171	2,015	156	7.2%	2,077	1,962	115	5.5%
Valencia	14,122	12,562	1,560	11.0%	14,376	12,773	1,603	11.2%	12,878	11,419	1,459	11.3%

1/ All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Bernalillo County

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Dona Ana County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties

New Mexico Employment Security Department
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(Continued from page 8)

should employ about 12 persons. Arizona's second largest electric utility, the Salt River Project, is expected to begin strip mining coal from 57 acres northwest of Quemado in January. The utility has been working on the coal project, to be called Fence Lake #1, over the last five years, acquiring land and leases and completing archaeological and environmental studies. The utility plans to initially employ 60 workers extracting coal which will be trucked to the Coronado electric generating station near St. John's, Arizona. Construction is expected to begin in the spring of 1987 on the $6 million, 60,000-square-foot building that will house the Center for Radio Astronomy Imaging (CRAI) on the campus of New Mexico Tech; the center will have more than 80 employees when operational. CRAI will be the operating headquarters for both the Very Large Array and the Very Long Baseline Array radiotelescope systems; the first of the huge VLBA antennas is currently under construction near Pietown. Eleven new businesses have located in Socorro's Main Street Project renovation area during the project's first year of operation, thereby creating 34 new jobs.

TAOS AREA: The addition of new snowmaking equipment at area ski resorts enabled those resorts to open on or about Thanksgiving Day this year, providing additional employment for area residents. Mesa Air Shuttle of Albuquerque has announced plans for passenger flights to both Taos and Angel Fire during this ski season. Taos Forest Products has shut down and filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy; the company directly employed 35 people in its sawmill in addition to about 25 loggers employed by contractors.